GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4523
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2016
Ultrasonic Fault Detection Machine
Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the railway track examination made by the ultrasonic fault detection machine and manual examination by trolley;

(b) whether minor fractures in railway tracks due to regular movements of trains is detected by the ultrasonic fault detection machine and if so, the details of the examination made during the last two years and if not, the details therefor;

(c) whether damage to tracks is mostly caused by the overloaded goods trains and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time when the track at the recent rail accident site near Kanpur was examined by the ultrasonic fault detection machine?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) of UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4523 BY SHRI GANESH SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 14.12.2016 REGARDING ULTRASONIC FAULT DETECTION MACHINE

(a) Ultrasonic Flaw Detection Testing is a non-destructive testing with Ultrasonic waves to detect the minor inner flaws in rails and welds and is carried out as per provisions of "Manual for Ultrasonic Testing of Rails and Welds-2012". In trolley inspection, physical condition of track, its components and other track-side railway infrastructure are inspected manually.
(b) Fractures in railway tracks can also be detected by Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) Machines but fractures are detected visually. Primarily USFD is carried out to detect inner flaws in rails and welds. The details of the examination of rails by USFD testing done during the last two years and current year upto October, 2016 on Indian Railways are as under :-
2014-15 - 356268 km
2015-16 - 364356 km
2016 (upto October, 2016) - 219752 km
(c) No, Madam. On Indian Railways, mixed type of traffic including goods train, high speed trains and passenger trains is plying on most of the sections.
(d) The last USFD testing of the track in Pokhrayan-Malasa block section in Jhansi-Kanpur section near Kanpur was done on 18.10.2016.
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